

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 112489

TAGS:SOPN,GE

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON HORSE RACING

REF: BERLIN 5693

1. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH BAILEY GUARD AND HIS ASSISTANT, STEVE SWAIN, REGARDING YOUR REQUEST FOR A SUMMARY OF YOUR COMMENTS ON HORSE RACING MADE DURING THE 1969 TAX BILL DEBATE. FOLLOWING ARE YOUR COMMENTS AS PROVIDED BY MR. SWAIN WITH THE DATES MADE CURRENT.

"BRED IN THE SPRING OF 1975, MARES WILL FOAL IN ELEVEN MONTHS OR BEGINNING IN LATE FEBRUARY AND THROUGH MAY OF 1976. THE COLT OR FILLY WILL REMAIN A FOAL THROUGH 1976. REGARDLESS OF THE ACTUAL DATE OF BIRTH, FOALS WILL BE DESIGNATED YEARLINGS, ACCORDING TO THE HORSE CALENDAR, ON JANUARY 1, 1977. THAT IS, ALL RACING HORSES HAVE THE SAME BIRTHDAY, JANUARY 1.

"IN 1978 THEY WILL BECOME TWO-YEAR-OLDS. THERE IS SOME RACING OF TWO-YEAR-OLDS IN THE UNITED STATES, BUT THE BREEDERS CANNOT DETERMINE THEIR CLASS, OR REALLY THEIR ABILITY UNTIL THEY ARE THREE-YEAR-OLDS IN 1979. ONLY THREE-YEAR-OLDS MAY RUN IN THE KENTUCKY DERBY.

"THE BREEDING, TRAINING, SHOWING AND RACING OF HORSES IS AN IMPORTANT BUSINESS IN KENTUCKY AND TWENTY-SIX OTHER STATES." KISSINGER

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